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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/724,775

12/02/2003

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ALC 3100

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7590

05/12/2009

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EXAMINER

MILLS, DONALD L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2416

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/12/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 2416

Continuation of 3. NOTE:

Regarding claims 1 and 9, the extensive modifications (as seen below) to the claims change their scope; therefore, the Examiner is required to perform an updated search.

1. (Currently Amended) A redundant hub-spoke virtual private LAN (VPN) having a plurality of emulated LANs (ELANs), each connected at a provider edge (PE) node over a service provider network, comprising:

a first hub node serving client equipment (CE) devices connected on a first ELAN, connected at a first of said PE nodes, capable of performing as a root bridge node of the VPN;

a spoke node connected to a second of said PE nodes, serving CE devices on a second ELAN;

~~a first point-to-point link L1 for interconnecting said first hub node and said spoke node;~~

~~means for detecting a failure of said first point-to-point link L1, and for transmitting a corresponding failure notice;~~

a second hub node connected to a third of said PE nodes, interconnected with said first hub node through said service provider network and said first and third PE nodes ; and

~~means for establishing a redundant point-to-point link L2 from said second hub node to said spoke node in response to said failure notice~~

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wherein said first PE node and said second PE node are capable of connecting through said service provider network to form a first point-to-point link L1 interconnecting said first hub node and said spoke node,

wherein at least one of said first, second and third PE nodes is capable of detecting a failure associated with said first hub node and, in response to said detecting, of sending a failure notice,

wherein said third PE and said second PE are capable, in response to said failure notice, of establishing a redundant point-to-point link L2 through said service provider network, L2 interconnecting said second hub node and said spoke, and

wherein, in response to said failure notice, said second hub node is capable of performing as the root bridge node of the VPN.